



PATENT CASE NAME/NO. 977-001(RIC 00-031)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: William C. Hardy

Serial No: 09/779,092

Filing Date: 02/08/2001

Title: A METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR ESTIMATING QUALITY
IN A TELEPHONIC VOICE
CONNECTION

Group Art Unit: 2643

Examiner: Taylor, Barry W.

RESPONSE

RECEIVED

JUN 18 2003

Technology Center 2600

Mail Stop: Final Office Action Response
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINER'S OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Office Action dated 4/3/2003, designated as Paper No. 14 in the above-captioned application, please enter the following Remarks as follows:

Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of the outstanding office action is respectfully requested. Claims 1-61 remain in this application.

1. § 103 Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-61 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable for obviousness over U.S. Patent No. 6,304,634 to Hollier et al. (hereinafter Hollier) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,256,608 to Malvar, or over U.S. Patent No. 5,867,813 to Di Pietro et al. (hereinafter Di Pietro), or over U.S. Patent No. 6,356,601 to Chen et al. (hereinafter Chen). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because the Examiner has failed to make a prima facie case of obviousness because the proposed combination does not teach all of the claimed limitations. Further, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because there is no motivation to combine the cited references.

With the exception of his response to Applicant's arguments, the Examiner's Office Action dated 4/3/2003 is identical to his previous Office Action dated October 18, 2002.